

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 HONG K 05886 100912Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 EB-08 IO-13 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /110 W
-----058103 101127Z /13

R 100805Z MAY 78
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 289
INFO CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 5886

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MILI, PEPR, CH, FR
SUBJECT: LOCAL PRC PRESS SAYS CHINA TO BUY ARMS

1. HONG KONG'S PRC-CONTROLLED WEN WEI PAO STATED IN ITS MAY 10 EDITORIAL THAT CHINA "WILL BUY ANTI-TANK DEVICES AND MIRAGE 2000 FIGHTER PLANES." WEN WEI PAO DOES NOT IDENTIFY THE COUNTRY WHICH WILL SELL THESE WEAPONS, BUT ITS LEAD ARTICLE THE PREVIOUS DAY WAS A REUTERS DESPATCH FROM PARIS WHICH CITED FRENCH OFFICIALS AS SAYING THE CHINESE WERE INTERESTED IN BUYING THE HOT AND MILAN ANTI-TANK SYSTEMS, THE EXOCET ANTI-SHIP MISSILES AND THE CROTALE WEAPON SYSTEM AGAINST LOW-FLYING SUPERSONIC PLANES. THE MAY 10 EDITORIAL COMMENTED THAT THE PLANNED WEAPON PURCHASE "IS OBVIOUSLY A NATIONAL DEFENSE MEASURE AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION."

2. COMMENT: IN AN EFFORT TO INCREASE CIRCULATION, THE PRC-CONTROLLED PRESS IN HONG KONG HAS RECENTLY BEEN GIVEN SOME MEASURE OF REPORTING INDEPENDENCE, SO ITS COMMENTS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 HONG K 05886 100912Z

CANNOT BE TAKEN AS DEFINITE CONFIRMATION OF PEKING DECISIONS. HOWEVER, WE DOUBT THAT WEN WEI PAO WOULD MAKE SUCH A FLAT PREDICTION UNLESS IT HAD RECEIVED SOME GUIDANCE FROM PEKING INDICATING A DESIRE TO MAKE A DEAL WITH THE FRENCH.

3. COORDINATED WITH HKDLO.

SHOESMITH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PROCUREMENT, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HONGK05886
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780198-0290
Format: TEL
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780575/aaaacnv.tel
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: be5530a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2739040
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOCAL PRC PRESS SAYS CHINA TO BUY ARMS
TAGS: MILI, PEPR, SOPN, MASS, CH, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/be5530a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014